

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 16, 20, 21, 25-27, 31-33 and 45 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 17-19, 22, 24, 28, 30, 34, 36 and 46-48 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-15, 17-19, 22-24, 28-30, 34-44 and 46-48 are now pending and under consideration. No new matter is included in this Amendment.

STATEMENT CONCERNING COMMONLY OWNED SUBJECT MATTER

The present application and the subject matter of U.S. Patent 5,988,872 to Jeong and the subject matter of U.S. Patent 5,970,208 to Shim were, at the time the respective inventions were made, owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.

The present application is an application filed after November 29, 1999 and is entitled to the benefits of 35 U.S.C. §103(c) regarding commonly owned subject matter. Thus, neither U.S. Patent 5,988,972 to Jeong nor U.S. Patent 5,970,208 to Shim may not be used as a reference in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

The First 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 11, 14, 37-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,102 to Seto et al., U.S. Patent 6,119,262 to Chang et al. and U. S. Patent 5,699,434 to Hogan.

A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Chang et al. is August 19, 1997 and the U.S. filing date of Seto et al. is August 21, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that neither Chang et al. nor Seto et al. is a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 1-4, 11, 14, 37-38 without regard to Chang et al. and Seto et al.

The Second U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 4 of the Office Action, claims 5, 6, 13 and 39-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,102 to Seto et al., U.S. Patent 6,119,262 to Chang et al., U. S. Patent 5,699,434 to Hogan, and U.S. Patent 5,988,872 to Jeong.

A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Chang et al. is August 19, 1997 and the U.S. filing date of Seto et al. is August 21, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that neither Chang et al. nor Seto et al. is a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 5, 6, 13, and 39-40 without regard to Chang et al. and Seto et al. Further, in view of the above statement regarding common ownership, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 5, 6, 13, and 39-40 without regard to Jeong.

The Third 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 5 of the Office Action, claims 7, 10, 12, 15, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,102 to Seto et al. and U.S. Patent 6,119,262 to Chang et al.

A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Chang et al. is August 19, 1997 and the U.S. filing date of Seto et al. is August 21, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that neither Chang et al. nor Seto et al. is a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 5, 6, 13, and 39-40 without regard to Chang et al. and Seto et al.

The Fourth 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 6 of the Office Action, claims 8 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,102 to Seto et al., U.S. Patent 6,119,262 to Chang et al. and U.S. Patent 5,988,872 to Jeong.

A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Chang et al. is August 19, 1997 and the U.S. filing date of Seto et al. is August 21, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that neither Chang et al. nor Seto et al. is a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 5, 6, 13, and 39-40 without regard to Chang et al. and Seto et al. Further, in view of the above statement regarding common ownership, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 5, 6, 13, and 39-40 without regard to Jeong.

The Fifth 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 6 of the Office Action, claims 9 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,102 to Seto et al., U.S. Patent 6,119,262 to Chang et al., U.S. Patent 5,988,872 to Jeong, and U.S. Patent 5,970,208 to Shim.

A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Chang et al. is August 19, 1997 and the U.S. filing date of Seto et al. is August 21, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that neither Chang et al. nor Seto et al. is a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 9 and 42 without regard to Chang et al. and Seto et al. Further, in view of the above statement regarding common ownership, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 9 and 42 without regard to Jeong and Shim.

The Sixth 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 6 of the Office Action, claims 13 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,102 to Seto et al., U.S. Patent 6,119,262 to Chang et al. and U.S. Patent 5,988,872 to Jeong.

A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Chang et al. is August 19, 1997 and the U.S. filing date of Seto et al. is August 21, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that neither Chang et al. nor Seto et al. is a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 13 and 44 without regard to Chang et al. and Seto et al. Further, in view of the above statement regarding common ownership, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 13 and 44 without regard to Jeong.

The Seventh 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 7 of the Office Action, claims 16, 20-21, 24-27, 30-33, 36 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al.

Claims 16, 20, 21, 25-27, 31-33, 36 and 45 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus the rejections of claims 16, 20-21, 25-27, 31-33, 36 and 45 are moot. Claim 22

has been amended to include the features of claims 20 and 21 and claim 24 has been amended to depend from claim 22. Claim 24, as amended, is deemed to be patentable over Yamakawa et al. when considered without regard to Chang et al. Claim 28 has been amended to include the features of claims 25-27 and claim 30 has been amended to depend from claim 28. Claim 30 is deemed to be patentable over Yamakawa et al. when considered without regard to Chang et al.

The Eighth 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 8 of the Office Action, claims 17, 22-23, 28-29, 34-35 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,119,262 to Chang et al.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the features of claim 16; claim 22 has been amended to include the features of claims 20 and 21; claim 28 has been amended to include the features of claims 25-27; claim 34 has been amended to include the features of claims 31-33; and claim 46 has been amended to include the features of claim 45. A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Chang et al. is August 19, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that Chang et al. is not a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 17, 22-23, 28-29, 34-35 and 46 without regard to Chang et al.

The Ninth 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 9 of the Office Action, claims 18 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,699,434 to Hogan. Claim 18 has been amended to depend from claim 17 and claim 47 has been amended to depend from claim 46. Claim 18 is deemed to be patentable at least for similar reasons set forth above regarding claim 17 and claim 47 is deemed to be patentable at least for similar reasons set forth above regarding claim 46.

The Tenth 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

At page 9 of the Office Action, claims 19 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,875,164 to Yamakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,102 to Seto et al.

A Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131(a), declaring an earlier date of invention prior to

August 19, 1997 is submitted contemporaneously with the present Amendment. The U.S. filing date of Seto et al. is August 21, 1997. Based on the §1.131(a) Declaration, it is submitted that Seto et al. is not a valid reference against the present application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider claims 19 and 48 without regard to Seto et al.

Summary

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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